

NEWS

From County Supervisor Paul Biane

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Fee Waiver Extended, Modified to Aid Fire Victims

SAN BERNARDINO –Grand Prix Fire and Old Fire victims have until December 2014 to take advantage of fee waivers aimed at helping and encouraging them to rebuild or repair their homes, the Board of Supervisors decided Tuesday.

The Grand Prix and Old fires damaged and destroyed more than one thousand homes in San Bernardino County in 2003. Supervisors instituted fee waivers for fire victims immediately after the blazes, but some homeowners have yet to rebuild or repair their fire-damaged homes.

In addition, the Board agreed to waive fees when fire victims apply for lot mergers and adjustments, which can improve fire protection by providing greater separation between homes and buildings. The Board also agreed to broaden a provision that allows fire victims in Cedar Glen to rebuild anywhere in unincorporated San Bernardino County and still receive a building fee waiver. Now all Old or Grand Prix fire victims can get this fee waiver if they rebuild on another lot in an unincorporated area in the County.

"Some homeowners have encountered problems with their insurance companies or FEMA that delayed their rebuilding plans," said Board of Supervisors Chairman Paul Biane. "But many of these homeowners still want to rebuild their homes and their lives here in San Bernardino County, and this Board is committed to helping them do that."